

The Christian Sacrifice:

O R, A

True Relation of the Birth, Death, and glorious Ascension of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

IN the sixteen hundred and seventeenth
if I do right remember, (year
It was my luck to ly alone
the second of September;
And calling on the promis'd one,
was made to man and angel,
Whom witness Matthew, Mark, and John,
and Luke, in their evangel.

When Christ was born no one it knew,
except his mother Mary,
The angels to the shepherds flew
to tell withouten tarry.
and when they came to Bethlehem,
they found him in a manger,
Joseph took his journey by him,
forwarnd of Herod's danger:

The star did warn these three wise men,
who after proved true men;
And all the babes in Bethlehem,
king Herod sought and flew them.
after the death of Herod king,
from Egypt they returned,
for Archelaus then did reign,
to Nazareth they journeyed.

When John the Baptist he began
to preach the first repentance
against the Scribe and Pharisees
pronounced a woeful sentence.
When Jesus unto Jordan came
of John to be baptized:
for likewise after Moses law
so was he circumcised.

John would hardly take in hand
for to consent until it,
For Christ our king, I understand,
all righteousness fulfilled
a voice was heard from heaven above,
after he was baptized;
this is my well beloved son
in whom I am well pleased.

When Judas came with men of war,
where they did apprehend him;
then Peter cut off Malchus ear,
thinking for to defend him.
they led him captive unto Annas,
full hardly they abus'd him,
delivered him to Caiaphas,
and there they ill did use him.

Pontius Pilate being president
unto that jurisdiction,
from that time he got this innocent,
under his malediction,
he beat his body and made it bleed,
and crowned him with a garland,
to his hand he put a reed,
and gave him a purple garment.

from Gabbatha to Golgotha
his cross they made him carry,
and Symon of Cyrenea,
this old man they contrary
band Christ's own cross upon his back,
and forced him profanely.
the last seven words our Saviour spake,
Saint John rehearsed painly.

he prayed for his enemies
in number where they stand there
and promised to the penitent thief
pardon, on his right hand there;
and to this woman he did speak,
(I mean his mother Mary)
to his disciples whom he loved,
and did lament him sorely.

then darkness came o'er all the earth,
the vail rave of the temple,
the dead men rose out of their graves,
the earth did shake and tremble,
six long hours our Saviour hang
after the Jews subjection,
seven several times the blood out sprang,
for our sins satisfaction.

Thus wrestling with the wrath of God
with pangs of death o'ertaken,
he cry'd aloud, O God my God,
why hast thou me forsaken?
I am dry then he did say,
before his soul ascended,
'tis finish'd, Father, here's my spirit,
to thee I recommend it.

Friday before the sabbath day,
was the Jews preparation,
to break his bones of Pilate there,
they made a supplication.
a soldier pierc'd him with a spear,
after he was departed,
out came the blood and water clear,
his coat with lots they parted.

Nicodemus a man of law,
aloes and myrrh appointed,
and Joseph of Arimathea,
his body they anointed.
after they wrapt him in a web
and bore him to the garden,
and laid him into Joseph's tomb,
where never man had there been.

Then Mary Magdalen came by day
and mist away the stone.
so back they ran in great affright
and told Peter and John.
they found the kerchiefs and the cloaths
were lying where they left them,
they thought some of his mortal foes,
had either stoln or rest him,

yet Mary Magdalen did remain
after the two's returning,
and looked upon his grave again,
with weeping and with mourning
and saw two angels sit in white,
where Christ was set a keeping,
who asked her standing at their feet
woman who art thou seeking?

Sir, they have taken my Lord away,
I know not where to find him;
as she was talking on this way,
she's standing just behind him.
he cry'd Mary, she cry'd master,
his countenance she kent it:
touch me not, for I must go,
I am not yet ascended.

tell my brethren in general,
I ascend to my father,
and to my God and your God all,
he told them all together,
the self same night they 'sembled right,
because the Jews did wrong them,
Jesus came in withouten din
and said, peace be among them.

I give to you the Holy Ghost:
both hands and feet he shew them,
and give them power o'er all the rest
to pardon sins of true men.
forty days long our Saviour rang
after his bitter passion,
and finished (so faith my song)
the work of man's salvation.

then Thomas was not in the room
when that they did convene there,
he said except he felt his wound
and saw then with his een there.
Christ said, Thomas wilt thou not be true
thou sees and yet believes not
O be not faithless but faithful
they're blest believers and sees not.

He kyth'd himself to Cleophas,
with great humiliation,
betwixt Jerusalem and Emmaus,
thus was his exhortation.
at the sea of Tiberias
he din'd with his disciples,
and gave command that they should pass
and preach unto all people.

I will send down the Holy Ghost,
from of the Mount off Olives,
and will my peace unto them give,
who in my blood believes;
and with these words he went away,
and from their sight ascended;
saying thou must stay until the day,
then I shall bring you to it,